AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 21 that starts with "When the reformulated" with the following amended paragraph:

When the reformulated queries have been ordered according to the probability of obtaining a correct answer, a utility model and accuracy predictor 450 such as described above is employed to form a query subset 460 which is then submitted to one or more search engines 470. Results returned from the search engines 470 are processed by an answer composer 480 that generates a formatted answer or answers 490 in response to the question 420. A request formulation 492 may also be submitted to request that a user reformulate a question 420 (or try searching somewhere else *e.g.,* ask a human expert), or to warn the user about the cost of continuing. At 494 [[498]], system feedback may be employed to perform additional steps that form[[s]] a multistage analysis that takes results from a previous cycle of analysis into consideration. Also, one or more properties 496 from the questions 420 may be analyzed by the utility model and accuracy predictor 450 when determining the query subset 460. The following discussion describes one possible implementation for the system 400. It is to be appreciated that various implementations are possible (*e.g.,* various components combined into single component, some components operating on remote systems, and so forth).